

ARTICULATED HEAD OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS DCM-PTA MODELS

The clamping mechanism assembly, simply referred to as the HEAD or DOUBLE-HEAD or HEADS, is for the DCM-PTA model, unlike any other PTA models in that its mounting to the frame is articulated. This serves two functions for the unit during drum engagement:

- (a) It provides for a lateral movement of the heads without changing direction of the unit or truck.
- (b) It provides for a movement between the two heads relative to the horizontal plane without, likewise, altering the position of the unit.

An illustration for movement (a) is when tight spaces presents an impossibility of steering the fork truck to practicably center of the unit with the drum (see Fig. 1). In these situations the swiveling heads self-align itself on contact with the drum. In very difficult situations a drum could be off-centered 8" or even more. And, depending on the extent of the truck carriage's forward tilt, the condition of the drum-rim and the driver's familiarity with his equipment's capabilities, it could be maneuvered by tilting carriage forward 3 to 5 degrees and let one of the heads grab the drum. Tilting the carriage back to the upright position and raising the forks so drum bottom barely clears the floor would swing the drum on the cradle centering it with the unit. Then, by lowering to floor and raising back up would bring both heads to grab.

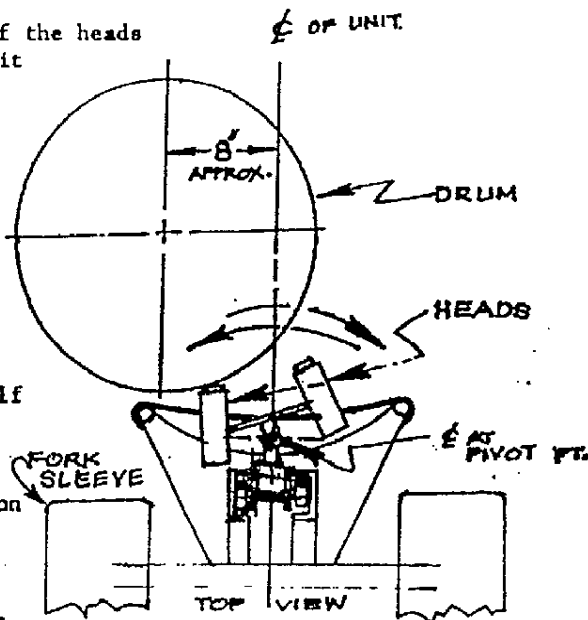


FIG. 1

Movement for (b) as illustrated in Fig. 2 is a swaying motion provided for into the articulation wherein the heads self-align itself to a drum sitting on an inclined floor or uneven surfaces and/or vice-versa the truck standing on one. The heads have a 15° sway, with respect to the horizontal, both ways. But the drum, of course, could be inclined 20° or more and still be handled as in the former situation.

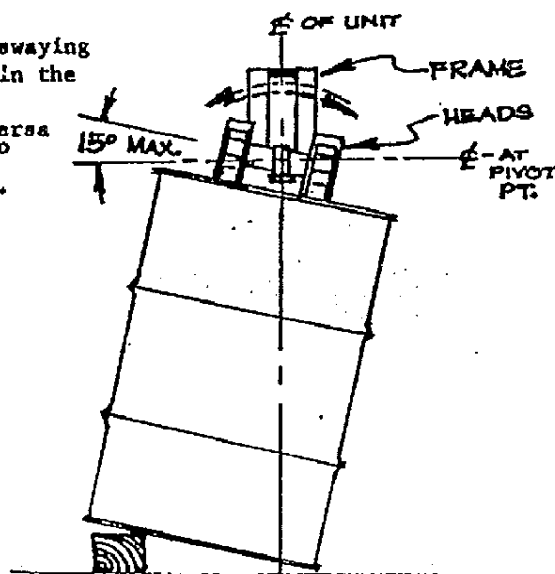


FIG. 2

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